State Governments and other forums/organisations in so far as they are practicable in the implementation of the scheme. Under the provisions of the scheme, the borrowers who would be eligible for the relief would be provided fresh finance also. Further to ensure adequate flow of credit during 1990, kharif season, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) had extended relaxations in regard to sanction and operation of the credit limits sanctioned to State Cooperative Banks.

Report on the condition of the villagers of villages in Narmada Sarovar Dam's submergence area

988. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three-member team of Narmada Bachao Andolan which visited the different villages in the Narmada Sarovar Dam's submergence area to see the condition of the villagers there recently visited New Delhi to apprise Government of their findings;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) to (c) A 7-Member team of so called Narmada Bachao Andolan had a meeting with the officials of the Central Government on 18-5-1990. The said team mentioned various issues which warrant attention. Narmada Control Authority has undertaken a programme of publications to bring out the real position in respect of the important issues. Steps have also been taken to expedite the matters associated with the resettlement of the oustees and the measures for environmental protection.

Visit of the president of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

989. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly elected President of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage visited New Delhi and different parts of the country, in July this year;

(b) what percentage of the irrigation potential offered by river-water of different Indian rivers is utilised in the country and what percentage is simply drained away or causes degradation of soil; and

(c) what rteps, if any, were suggested by him to improve the utilisation of irrigation potential of the rivers and drains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) The newly elected President of International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage visited New Delhi in July, 1990. He did not visit any other place in India.

(b) Total average annual flow available in the country is about 188 m.ha.m, out of which utilisable surface water resources potential is about 69 m.ha.m. Of this it is estimated that by 1989-90 utilisation achieved under surface water irrigation projects is 28 m.ha.m. which is about 40 per cent of utilisable surface water resources.

(c) Steps suggested in press conference were that fuller advantage should be taken of special emphasis being given on the international R & D initiatives in the technology of irrigation and drainage, particularly in the context of modernisation of Irrigation and Drainage systems, sustainable use of land and water and improvement in the technologies for maintenance.